

Army racism in rape case

Alexis Herman paying the price

Mansion in May in Plainfield

Prostate Cancer in black men



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Volume 13, Number 28

Serving New Jersey's African-American Communities Since 1983

APRIL 23 - APRIL 29, 1997

MCDONALD'S PARTNERS WITH NEW JERSEY DEPT. OF HEALTH FOR NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK, APRIL 20-26

ELIZABETH—Northern and Central New Jersey McDonald's Restaurants have partnered with the New Jersey Department of Health to create a program that encourages parents to have their children immunized.

During Infant Immunization Week, April 20-26, more than 175 local McDonald's Restaurants will provide its customers with in-store posters and trayliners that list a vaccination schedule recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. McDonald's has also partnered with several print and broadcast media outlets that will run public service announcements throughout the week.

As an added incentive, New Jersey McDonald's Restaurants have See MCDONALD'S PARTNERS Page 4

GRANDPARENTS PLEAD GUILTY IN TRIBAL SLASHING OF GRANDSON'S FACE

NEW YORK (AP)—The grandparents of a 6-year-old boy avoided a possible prison sentence by admitting they had cut African tribal marks into their grandson's face.

Fadi Hiji, 47, and Joyce Moore, 52, pleaded guilty to second-degree assault Tuesday in exchange for non-prosecution. They could have gotten up to seven years in prison if convicted after trial.

State Supreme Court Justice Joan Sotkin issued a limited order of protection, which allows the couple to see their grandchild but forbids them from cutting tribal marks—called "tlaas"—into their faces.

Hiji and Moore were arrested last July after Isaaciah el-Shabazz, 27, of Pleasantville, N.J., called police upon learning that her mother was about to do the ritual slashing on Shabazz' son, Akinbunmi Moore, 6.

The grandparents were babysitting the boy and two younger brothers when they used a box cutter to cut three vertical lines in each of the boy's cheeks, markings associated with Nigeria's Yorub tribe.

The victim's teen-age aunt, who lives with the couple, telephoned Shabazz to tell her what was happening and Shabazz alerted police.

Shabazz explained she had not wanted the slashes done until the boy was 12 or 14, "when he reached the rite of passage," Sotkin's order allows any slashing of the family's children before they reach 18, the age of consent.

DONATION OPENING DOORTO FOR SLAVE SHIP REPLICA

MYSTIC, Conn. (AP)—Phoenix Home Life Mutual Insurance Co. is donating \$100,000 to help Mystic Seaport to get millions to build a replica of the slave ship Amistad.

The insurance firm will donate \$100,000 and raise another \$200,000. In 1994, the state approved a \$2.5 million grant for the project, contingent on the Seaport raising \$300,000 in matching funds.

The Phoenix's donation, announced Tuesday, ensures the Seaport need not delay the project until the state to release the \$2.5 million.

The comes just weeks after director Steven Spielberg spent several days at the Seaport shooting scenes for his upcoming movie about the Amistad.

Work on the boat is slated to begin in late fall in the Seaport shipyard, which has begun stockpiling oak trees for the construction. It will take six to nine months to design the ship and about two years to build it.

The Amistad story began in 1839 when 53 slaves being transported along the coast of Cuba took control of their ship, after killing the captain and cook.

The Africans were captured as they sailed the ship near Montauk. They were initially brought into New London and then sent to New Haven. The case eventually was brought before the U.S. Supreme Court, where President John Quincy Adams successfully argued for their freedom.

Cissy Houston to be honored at 100 Most influential

Gospel recording artist Cissy Houston has recently joined the honorees of the City News 100 Most Influential, which also include Tuskegee Airmen Hannibal "Killer" Cox and Claude B. Govan, talk show host Tony Brown, and Maj. Gen. Marcelle Harris. More than 700 attendees are expected at the award event to be held at the Newark International Airport Hotel on May 1.

Houston, the mother of one of last year's honorees, singer Whitney Houston, has been a major staple in the world of gospel music for over 40 years. She began her career with her family's gospel group the Drinkard Sisters, which released their first album, *A Joyful Noise*, in 1957. From there, she went on to form the female quartet the Sweet Inspirations, which earned a Grammy Award nomination in 1968, and became a sought-after talent as back-up vocals for singers such as Wilson Pickett, Aretha Franklin, and Elvis Presley for his comeback shows in Las Vegas. As a solo artist in the 1970s and 1980s, Houston has performed around the world and performed with her daughter at the Nelson Mandela Birthday concert in London in 1989. In 1995, she received the Pioneer Award from the Rhythm and Blues Foundation in recognition of her life's work.



The 100 Most Influential Award honors and celebrates the efforts of 100 people and corporations who have supported the upward mobility of the state's Black residents, or have infused economic, social, cultural, scientific, spiritual, and political vitality into New Jersey's urban centers. The 1997 Awards are it's second annual event, and is sponsored by AT&T, Bell Atlantic, Chase, PSE&G, CoreStates Bank, Hoechst Marion Roussel, GPU Energy, JNC Bank, Prudential, Summit Bank, Valley National Bank, WLJB-AM/WBLS-FM, Cable Vision of Newark, Deloitte & Touche LLP, MetLife, Pepsi-Cola, Schering-Plough, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Bank of New York, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of New Jersey, Broad National Bank, Investors Savings Bank, and Nabisco.

PARADE COMMITTEE JOINS MOBIL IN "MOBILIZING OUR COMMUNITY"

NEWARK—Mobil Corporation has signed on to Heritage Celebration '97 as its premier sponsor, it was announced last Tuesday at a leadership breakfast of the African-American Heritage Parade Committee at the Newark Club.

"The committee is extremely enthusiastic with securing Mobil's participation in Heritage Celebration '97" as our Premier Sponsor, "Parade Chairman Donald Bernard said. "The \$25,000 dollars Mobil has committed to our effort is providing the anchor

required to continue implementation of a first-class celebration of heritage and culture."

"As African-American leaders, we should embrace the efforts of the Committee and the concept of the Parade, and with our resources give of the where-with-all to reach their potential," remarked keynote speaker Carl Sharief, President of US For Once and Alpha Presentations. "As for the parade itself, it is great and takes me back to my own childhood when we excitedly readied ourselves to stand packed with other kids on Broad Street and fidgeted jubilantly as the colorful bands and thumping tunes filled the air."

Secretary of State Loma Hooks, Rep. Donald Payne, and Mayor Sharpe James also attended and contributed to the breakfast, where it was also announced that community activist Connie Woodruff will be honored posthumously as one of this year's Grand Marshalls. Heritage Celebration '97 will be held on the weekend of May 23-26.



Carl Sharief, left, President of US For Once and Don Bernard, President of the African-American Heritage Parade Committee attend the Committee's Leadership Breakfast at the Newark Club last Tuesday.

Stand for Children 1997 to organize local action for healthy children

Mrs. Rosa Parks and Mrs. Rosie O'Donnell Named Honorary Co-Chairs of National Day Including 170 Events Planned in 50 States and the District of Columbia

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Hundreds of thousands of people across America will unite on June 1, 1997 in a massive local, national, and "virtual" Stand for Healthy Children, Children's Defense Fund President and Stand for Children Founder, Marian Wright Edelman, recently announced. Mrs. Rosa Parks, mother of the modern civil rights movement and national talk show producer and host Mrs. Rosie O'Donnell will serve as honorary co-chairs for Stand for Healthy Children.

Following on the heels of the historic Stand For Children rally at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC on June 1 of last year, the 1997 mobilization will include hundreds of local efforts to assure that every child gets a healthy start in life—with the health coverage children need to grow and thrive, and healthy communities that allow children to breathe clean air, walk safely to school, and learn unimpeded by violence or unrelated health problems.

"If you care about babies being born too small to live and thrive, take business, political media, religious and community leaders on a 'Child Watch' tour of your hospital's neonatal unit," said Edelman at a news conference. "If you care about children dying from diseases, we could prevent, organize an immunization

campaign to make sure every child gets the vaccinations they need."

"It's simply wrong that children in working families in America are denied health coverage that is provided to children in every other industrialized nation. And it is unconscionable that 3,300 children a day, whose parents work, are losing private health coverage million on average each year. If parents, religious, community, business, and political leaders do not act with urgency, preventable child illness, suffering, and death will increase."

Complementing the local Stand for Healthy Children activities will be a "virtual" Stand For Children—an on-line event that will take place on the Internet between May 25 and June 7. During those two weeks, thousands of people will come together on the Stand For Children Web site (www.stand.org) to sign the "virtual" petition for healthy children and find



Marian Wright Edelman and Mrs. Rosa Parks and talk show host Rosie O'Donnell

New York minority students say Denny's denied them service

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP)—Three months ago, Denny's thought it had finally put its racial problems behind. Now the restaurant chain faces another charge of discrimination.

Asian and black Syracuse University students say they were denied service at a Denny's restaurant and then some were assaulted by whites in the parking lot after they were escorted out.

NDI Foods Inc., a black-owned company, owns the franchise location. Its president, Charles Davis, has apologized to the students and said: "If discrimination did occur, it will be dealt with severely."

Six Asian students and one white student said they were refused service early Friday, then assaulted. Six black students said they were refused service at about the same time.

An official at Spartanburg, S.C.-based Flagstar Cos. Inc., the parent company of Denny's that has been beset by discrimination claims, said Tuesday the groups were asked to wait for a table large enough to seat

them. The company was unsure how the brawl started, said Ray Hood-Phillips, Flagstar's chief diversity affairs officer.

No arrests were made nor were charges filed.

NDI's Davis agreed to pay the students' medical bills and stop using the two security guards who escorted them outside, Hood-Phillips said.

The students also wanted an assistant manager and another employee fired, said But "our initial investigation showed they had done nothing wrong," Hood-Phillips said. "We're unwilling right now to fire two people based on the reports we have now."

Flagstar wants a Justice Department civil rights monitor, a position created in the aftermath of other discrimination charges, to sort out what happened, she said.

The chain has paid more than \$50 million to settle claims of discrimination and three months ago gave more than \$1 million to a host of civil rights groups.

East Orange Mayor nominated for top EPA position



By Daryle Lamont Jenkins

East Orange Mayor Carl Cooper, who announced last month that he will not seek re-election, has been nominated by President Clinton for the top position in the U.S. Environmental agency overseeing the cleanup of Superfund sites.

Once he passes a final FBI background check and Senate confirmation, Cooper will serve as assistant administrator for solid waste and emergency response. This is the division of the EPA with the largest budget.

and the #3 spot in the EPA ladder. Only Carol Browner and her deputy would outrank Cooper in the agency.

Senator Frank Lautenberg, the Senate Democrat on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has been working with President Clinton for months on this nomination and is pleased, saying that the EPA will be best served by someone coming from a state with the 107 Superfund sites, the most in the nation, "Cardel Cooper is an outstanding choice, once he is nominated I will work tirelessly for his Senate confirmation," he said.

"I look forward to working with him to ensure that programs like Superfund continue to protect our environment and the public health" Cooper, 44, the youngest Mayor ever elected in East Orange, served as chairman of President Clinton's re-election campaign in New Jersey. He has dealt with toxic waste cleanup in his city and will also oversee programs aimed at cleaning up toxic sites in urban industrial areas known as "brownfields," as well as programs that help remove leaky underground storage tanks.

Four professional fund-raisers, charity sued by state

NEWARK—As part of a joint state-federal sweep, New Jersey has filed suit against four professional fund-raisers and a charity alleging that the fund-raisers deceived the public when they solicited money on behalf of police and fire associations.

Attorney General Peter Verniero and New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs Director Mark S. Herr said today.

The 15-count complaint, filed in Essex County Superior Court in Newark, alleges that between 1993 and 1997, the fund-raisers fraudulently solicited potential donors on behalf of the state Police Benevolent Association (PBA) and the Fireman's Mutual Benevolent Association of New Jersey (FMBNA).

The complaint names Civic Development Group, Inc. (CAG), formerly U.S. Ad Brokers, Inc., New Jersey Fundraising Consultants, Inc. (NJFC), and Civic Development Group LLC (CDG, LLC), all of Hopewell. Scott Pasch of North Plainfield, David Keizer of Monmouth Beach, and Brian Pasch of Shrewsbury were also named in the complaint.

Also named in the suit was the New Jersey State Law Enforcement Officers Association (SLEOA) of Hillsdale. Since 1991, SLEOA has collected in excess of \$8.6 million, but has spent almost nothing for the benefit of law enforcement or its members. SLEOA was not registered as a charity when Scott Pasch, David Keizer and Brian Pasch allegedly

begin soliciting contributions for this organization.

"Making telephone solicitations in the name of any charity without that entity's consent is a violation of the New Jersey Charitable Registration and Investigation Act," Verniero said. "We will continue our vigilance in pursuing offenders of the law."

The professional fund-raisers allegedly made false claims that money was being raised for New Jersey State Police and local police and fire departments.

"Telephone fund-raisers try to convince the public that their fundraising activities are supported by the New Jersey State Police and/or various State Police connected scholarships or programs—this is simply untrue," said New Jersey State Police Colonel Carl L. Williams. "The New Jersey State Police does not engage in any fundraising activity. State troopers, their unions, associations, and fraternities do not solicit funds from the public."

The suit seeks to bar the Pasches, David Keizer and the New Jersey SLEOA from conducting any fund raising activities within New Jersey. It also seeks to prevent the Pasches and David Keizer from serving as officers, directors, shareholders, managers, employees, or agents of any fundraising corporation conducting solicitations in New Jersey. The suit is also seeking civil penalties, costs and attorneys fees as well as donor restitution.

SEE STATE SUES CHARITY/Page 10

Community Calendar

THROUGH MAY 1

MONTECLAIR—The Urban League is offering a free homebuyers course for people who want to purchase a home. Graduates will earn a certificate that will help them qualify for a mortgage. 5 weeks, 6:30 pm at Urban League of Essex County. For more information, call 201-624-9535.

APRIL 29, MAY 6, 13

EDISON—JFK Medical Center is offering the "I Can Cope" educational series, a four week program for cancer patients, their families, and friends. For more information, call 908-231-7769.

THROUGH MAY 2

SOMERVILLE—Printmaking classes for children six through nine at the Printmaking Council. For more information, call 908-725-2110.

THROUGH MAY 10

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College will offer a preparation course for the NJ Real Estate Salesperson's Exam. Licensure Examination on Saturdays 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the JCSC campus at 2039 Kennedy Blvd. For further information call (201) 200-3089.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 16

PLAINFIELD—Family story time with Postcard storyteller John Lano, author of the anti-drug "Red Ribbon Story"

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

NEW YORK—18th Annual Scientific Meeting at the New York University Medical Center. For more information, call 908-235-5062.

PLAINFIELD—Young People's Film Program at the Public Library. For more information, call 908-757-1111.

SCOTCH PLAINS—Open House at Union County Vo-Tech. For more information, call 908-276-8572.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

NORTH PLAINFIELD—Dinner Dance hosted by the Plainfield Gessing and Turn-Venn at Sanger Hall. For more information, call 908-276-8572.

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

UNION—Health Fair '97 at Union Hospital. For more information, call 908-887-1900.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

HACKENSACK—The NJ Million Man March Coalition will have a statewide meeting 4 pm at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 260 Central Ave. For more information, call (201) 469-6888.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

EAST ORANGE—"Senior Citizen Film" at the East Orange Public Library. For more information, call 201-566-5600.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

PLAINFIELD—Seminar/Workshop "Diabetics and Non-Diabetics" at the Plainfield Public Library. For more information, call 201-672-7372.

JERSEY CITY—1997 Latina Women's Conference at Hudson County Community College. For more information, call 201-324-0100.

EAST ORANGE—"Junior Department Films" at the East Orange Public Library. For more information, call 201-566-5600.

MONDAY, APRIL 28

CRANFORD—American Chemical Society meeting at Union County College. For more information, call 908-709-7501.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

NEWARK—13th annual Fund Raising Auction for the Newark Emergency Services for Families, Inc. 5-9 pm at the Newark Club. For more information, call 908-643-5727.

JERSEY CITY—A free seminar intended to help first time homebuyers obtain a mortgage will be held at Hudson County Community College's Palisade Building. For more information, call 1-800-368-0025.

EAST ORANGE—"Shane" at the East Orange Public Library. For more information, call 201-566-5600.

Mayor Sharpe James honors MSCW



At a recent luncheon at Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, Mayor Sharpe James' Commission on the Status of Women (MSCW) honored a group of women for their outstanding work in the Newark community. L-R: Trish Morris-Yamba, Chairperson of MSCW; Rosetta Lee, St. James A.M.E. Church; Hilda Rosario, Newark Public Library; Martita Janie Falkner, age 103; Willie Mariah Brown, International Youth Organization and Josephine DeFrosia, Vince Lombardi Center.

AT&T executive honored by Halmen YMCA at a salute to black achievers industry



Pictured from left to right at the dinner are honoree, J. Michael Hopkins; Paula Lance Gavin, President YMCA of Greater New York; and Frank Ianina, Vice President and General Manager of AT&T Network and Computing Services.

BASKING RIDGE, N.J.—The Harlem YMCA celebrated the achievements of 74 African American men and women who have successfully climbed the corporate ladder at its annual National Salute to Black Achievers in Industry Awards Dinner, held March 27.

Among those honored was Morrisstown resident J. Michael Hopkins, Vice President, Networking Provisioning at AT&T. Mr. Hopkins began his career with AT&T in 1979 as a staff manager. During his career he has pioneered many global and national projects, including responsibilities in Executive Leadership, Engineering, Manufacturing, Executive Human Resources, International Negotiations and Sales Profit Management.

Now in its 27th year, the Black Achievers in Industry Award recognizes men and women whose accomplishments in business make them role models for youngsters in the community.

Weekly Horoscope

By Miss Anna

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

Change is in the air. Allow old habits and emotions to be swept away and you'll be surprised how fast new and exciting situations will materialize. Chances are that you've been trying to work at things alone, stop and get feedback from others.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

During the week your physical energy will abound. Use this new found energy well and include others in the activities, possibly children. Tie up any loose ends and expect something in the workplace to come to a head. You have a lot to share with those around you.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

There is someone close to you in desperate need of financial help. Look around you closely, this individual may not be obvious. Feelings of passion will follow you during the week. Direct this fiery energy in a positive way. It is a good time to express yourself romantically.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

Try to maintain your sunny spirit in the face of seemingly depressing circumstances. Do what you can and try to stop worrying. You can do much to change the situation you find yourself in. Do your best to act fairly, for money matters are coming to a head.

LEO: (July 24 - August 23)

An existing relationship will flourish if you trust the other person completely. There is a real possibility for a new and intense love. Your spark of enthusiasm brings out the best in those around you. This opportunity could pave the way to more responsibility.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

You are doing well in your career choice, but know you could be doing better if given the chance. That opportunity for advancement is right around the corner. Be sure you can make good on your promises. There is an introverted friend who needs your emotional support this week.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

Turmoil seems to be everywhere this week. Just remember that a great deal of criticism can be delivered effectively with a smile. It will make more sense to keep people on your side if you can channel your rage in a more direct way. Joy could be just as habit forming as pessimism is.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

You may have the opportunity to invest in a creative enterprise with unexpected money coming from a family member who is looking out for your best interests. If a relationship is starting to feel a little stagnant, try to find ways to increase vitality, or get out.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 31)

It's time to take a lead from an ambitious acquaintance, and take your shot at fame and fortune. Your love life may be a bit rocky this week, so try to accentuate the positive. It's time to sew up any loose ends, leaving no stone unturned as you finish up.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

Changes do not come easy, but those that may occur in your personal life will probably be more accepted than most. Quiet time with family will give you the opportunity to catch up with others' lives. When you put your mind to it, you can accomplish just what you want.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

You seem to have a choice of paths to take. Make sure that you are not achieving success at the cost of others. Such ambition will no doubt reap rewards you may not wish for. It feels as if you are running around in circles; everything does not have to be done by the book.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

If you are getting attached, you are only setting yourself up for disappointment. Live in the here and now, tomorrow will take care of itself. Much of what you have been striving for is within your grasp, but you may have to count on others to help you reach that goal.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are wearing your feelings on your sleeve, and it's time you realize that you may not be as tough as you think. Withdrawing emotionally may help you figure out just where you are and where you belong. Romantic endeavors may prove more trouble than they are worth right now.

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Monthly Pmt Per \$1,000	\$7.26	Monthly Pmt Per \$1,000	\$7.00
Caps	5%	Caps	2% annual 5% lifetime

Rate subject to possible one time increase after 10 years

Converted to 1 Year ARM in 5 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually

3/1 ARM 30 Year Term		1-Year ARM	
Rate	6.875%	Rate	6.125%
APR	8.050%	APR	8.220%
Maximum Loan	\$1,000,000	Maximum Loan	\$1,000,000
Monthly Pmt Per \$1,000	\$6.57	Monthly Pmt Per \$1,000	\$6.08
Caps	2% annual 5% lifetime	Caps	2% annual 5% lifetime

Converts to 1 Year ARM in 3 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually

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LAWRENCEVILLE:

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LINDEN:

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LONG BRANCH:

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MADISON:

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MILLSBORO:

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NAVESINK:

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NEWARK:

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PLAINFIELD:

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SHORT HILLS:

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Federal agencies investigate police shooting of youth

NEW YORK (AP)—The FBI and federal prosecutors in Manhattan have opened a preliminary inquiry into the killing of a machete-wielding youth by New York police last Sunday, an FBI spokesman said today.

The federal authorities "are looking into the possibility that federal civil rights statutes were violated" in the shooting of Kevin Cedeno, 16, said Joseph Valiquette, the FBI spokesman in New York.

Cedeno, who is black, was killed by a single bullet from the gun of Officer Anthony Palerino, who is white.

Cedeno's family has retained a private pathologist, Dr. Barbara Wolfe, to perform an autopsy on the dead teen-ager, the New York Post reported today.

A city police has been investigating the shooting in Manhattan's Washington Heights section, which erupted in violence five years ago when a police officer fatally shot an alleged drug dealer.

The preliminary inquiry was started by the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's office in New York, Valiquette said.

But "we're not at the threshold of a full-fledged civil rights investigation," he emphasized, adding that it would have to be authorized by the Justice Department in Washington. He said no timetable had been set for considering such a move.

Police Commissioner Howard Safir has said that the officer fired a single shot at Cedeno at a range of 10 to 15 feet, after an apparent street dispute during which neighbors called 911.

ASSOCIATION OF BLACK SOCIAL WORKERS TO HONOR CHARLES RANGEL AND JOHN ROBINSON

New York, N.Y.—Congressman Charles B. Rangel, representing the 15th Congressional District in Harlem, John F. Robinson, president and chief executive officer of the National Minority Business Council, Inc. (NMBC), and Dale Nielsen and Frederick V. Nielsen 2nd, principals of Feather Rock Pictures, will be the honorees at the 22nd Anniversary Awards Dinner/Dance of the New York Chapter of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSWS).

The event takes place on Saturday, May 3, 1997 at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, in Manhattan, starting at 7:30 P.M. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Patricia Reid-Meemitt, author of "Sister Power" and a professor at Richard Stockton College in New Jersey. Janice Shindler, executive director of the NABSWS, New York Chapter, said that Congressman Rangel was being awarded for his efforts on issues "affecting the Black family at the national level," while Mr. Robinson is being recognized for his support of the NABSWS child adoption program.

CHRISTIAN COALITION CALLS FOR RACIAL RECONCILIATION

Christian Coalition Executive Director Dr. Ralph Reed and National Liaison for Community Development Rev. Earl Jackson issued a joint statement on racial reconciliation on the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's breaking the color line in Major League Baseball. They called on all Americans join them "in seeking a common American agenda by engaging in a meaningful, peaceful dialogue based on mutual respect."

"We have publicly recognized, and will continue to publicly recognize, that religious conservatives were on the sidelines—and at times on the wrong side—of the Civil Rights movement," the statement read. We understand that we must repent and then seek reconciliation with our brothers and sisters in Christ from all ethnic backgrounds.

The Coalition is holding a Congress on Racial Justice and Reconciliation in Baltimore on May 10. It is part of the group's Samaritan Project, which seeks to build a foundation for the Coalition within the inner cities.

Hartford Co. NAACP head speaks of army racism over rape accusations

By Ken Morgan

Janice Grant, veteran civil rights movement freedom rider, is President of the Hartford County, Maryland, NAACP. Her organization recently spearheaded an investigation into charges of rape and other related crimes leveled by the Army at the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) against nine Black officers (8 men, one female).

White officers were also implicated, but have not been court martialled. Five of the women charging rape have since recanted and have appeared at a press conference, saying they were coerced by Army investigators into making the allegations. Four of the Blacks originally charged have since been found innocent of the most serious allegations. Meanwhile, the NAACP is calling for an independent investigation into the matter. In the following interview, Baltimore-based

journalist Ken Morgan speaks with Grant about her organization's role in the affair.

KM: What prompted your inquiry?
J.G.: A woman called and said she was white and wanted to talk to me about the issue at APG. She said, "I need to talk to you face to face." After we talked, she called and said, "We can no longer trust the Army but we have decided to trust you." The woman was Darla Hornberger, one of the

women who recanted. I also received a telephone call from an anonymous caller, identifying herself as Ms. Jones. She asked, "Why don't you do something about the drill sergeants and the women making the false charges?" The Jones woman called two times. Ms. Jones had the four of the accused men, all Black, call me. We also met with the men. It appeared to be a civil rights matter because of the type of charges.

K.M.: Has the investigating com-

mand at APG been cooperative?
J.G.: Before our first press conference, Lt. Colonel Riesco, the Army spokesperson for the issue called me four or five times. He wanted the Army and the NAACP to make a joint statement saying that justice was being done in the investigation. It was like he was telling me what he wanted me to say. Of course, we didn't feel like justice was being done then or now. After

Whites turn backs on blacks at march through tense neighborhood

By Dinah Waisenberg Brin Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — White residents came out onto their front steps Monday and turned their backs on about 500 blacks who marched through the working-class neighborhood in a protest against racial violence.

Hundreds of police kept watch Monday on the mostly white Grays Ferry section, where racial tensions have been running high since the beating of a black family by a mob of whites and the killing of a white teen-ager during a robbery.

Angry words flew between some of the marchers and the onlookers, but there was no violence, and there were no arrests.

"They're turning their backs on the reality that Philadelphia has become a city of brotherly love," said Rasheeda Ali, who marched through the narrow streets of the rowhouse neighborhood with a baby in her arms. "They're turning their backs on brotherly love."

"Grays Ferry Residents Marching in Unity," one banner proclaimed. Many marchers carried the red, green and black flag representing black nationalism. Others held signs that read "Bring good to the hood."

"They walk by here, they stroll, they want to start trouble," said white resident Michael McBride.

Angry at the turned backs, many of the marchers shouted taunts. "White trash!" one black man yelled. "God loves us all, white trash!"

At one point a group of marchers rushed toward white onlookers, but police and community-appointed marshals averted a brawl.

As the march took place, an interfaith service was held a mile away. Among the speakers were Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and Mayor Ed Rendell.

Farrakhan told the mostly black audience that they must oppose all violence, not just acts committed by whites.

"Grays Ferry exists throughout

this nation," he said. "I applaud your having zero tolerance of police brutality and mob attack. We should also have zero tolerance of drive-by shootings, drug addiction and carjacking."

Representatives of the Methodist, Episcopal, Baptist and Presbyterian churches appeared with Farrakhan

but Jewish and Roman Catholic clergymen stayed away.

Rendell, who is Jewish, was criticized by Jewish leaders for appearing with a man they call a "bigot" and "a figure who epitomizes divisiveness."

"I confess before the world I am not that," Farrakhan replied.

Farrakhan praised Rendell for ap-

pearing with him, saying that "although he has taken a lot of heat for what he has dared to do, I believe, Mayor Rendell, that history will applaud your effort."

The march and service were in response to the Feb. 23 beating of Annette Williams, her son and nephew by a mob of white men outside a Ro-

man Catholic church social hall. Eight men have been charged with ethnic intimidation.

A month later, two black men shot and killed Christopher Brinkman, the 16-year-old son of a white police officer, during a drug store robbery that police said was not racially motivated. Two black men were charged.



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NATIONAL YOUTH BASEBALL TEAM SEEKS JERSEY PLAYERS TO COMPETE IN PUERTO RICO

The Roberto Clemente All-Stars are looking for baseball players ages 13-19 who are interested in traveling to Puerto Rico to compete against some of the world's best amateur teams.

The All-Star play in Puerto Rico three different times during the year: June 26 - July 5, August 1 - 10, or December 27 - January 5. The players, who come from all over the U.S., are provided on teams based on age and ability. After a two day training camp in San Juan, they travel throughout the island's bustling cities and small mountain villages to compete against some of the same squads that produced stars like Juan Gonzalez, Bernie Williams, and Edgar Martinez.

The players get the opportunity to receive instruction from former major league and top collegiate coaches, play in one of the island's professional winter ball stadiums, learn how to market themselves to college baseball coaches, and tour famous sights like El Yunque National Rain Forest.

SANDRA JACKSON GILL TO BE HONORED AS BUSINESS WOMAN OF THE YEAR

PLAINFIELD, N.J.—Sandra Jackson Gill, coowner of CREDEX Financial Solutions, LLC, will be honored by the Union County Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc., when the club presents her with their 1997 Business Woman of the Year Award. The special award will take place at the Union County Club's 25th Annual Founder's Day Luncheon on Saturday, April 26, 1997, at Galloway Hill Inn, Five Points, Union, NJ.

In choosing Jackson Gill for the award, Dolores Graves, award chairperson, said she is a woman who has demonstrated success in her business endeavors, and has provided a role model for women to aim for high standards.

A long time resident of Plainfield, Jackson Gill began her steps toward business excellence while studying Business at Essex County Vocational-Technical High School, and majoring in Accounting at Union College. While honing her accounting skills at Deloitte & Touche, formerly Deloitte Haskin & Sells, and Argus Insurance Services, Inc., Jackson Gill has also worked as a licensed Real Estate Sales Associate for 25 years, most recently associated with ERA Reed Realty.

LOCAL RESIDENTS JOIN TOGETHER TO CREATE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY EXHIBIT

A group of local residents are mounting an exhibit for the opening of the Convention Center in May. Called themselves the African American History Museum of Atlantic City, they are looking for local artifacts that tell the story of African Americans have been an integral part of the Atlantic City landscape since its days as a booming resort town, says exhibit facilitator Gus Thomas of Abscon. "With this exhibit we hope to begin to share the history of African Americans in Atlantic City with the rest of the world; a history that is largely forgotten in the larger historical picture of the area." So far they have compiled a wide array of historical lore from the area including photographs, musical instruments, uniforms and newspaper clippings.

The African American History Museum core group is reaching out to all branches of the community, churches, social organizations, fraternities and sororities, athletic groups, political organizations and most importantly individuals, for help in putting the exhibit together. "We really want people to get involved with this," says Thomas. "We need to recognize that all of our things have value, and to that end, make sure we don't lose them." He emphasizes that many people in the area have artifacts tucked away in the basement or attic and don't realize how much they're worth in a historical context. A number of other local residents are already involved with the exhibit including Gloria Ford, Joyce Paris, Carlos LaSane, Yvonne Duggett, Willie Gainer, Leanna Brown, Chris King, Eric Hauser and Kitty Johnson.

364 to lose jobs when Mueller's pasta plant closers in Jersey City

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP)—Citing an outdated facility, CPC International Inc. is closing its 82-year-old Mueller's pasta plant at the end of the year, putting 364 employees out of work.

Production has been contracted to American Italian Pasta Co., which has a new facility in Columbia, S.C., CPC said. CPC, based in Englewood Cliffs, has not yet decided what to do with the two-block plant site, but the city said it hopes to find another food production or industrial user.

The city will be discussing the site

with companies who have told it they need space, Thomas Gallagher, a spokesman for Mayor Bret Schundler, said Tuesday.

No plans have yet been made to help the workers find new jobs, but generally the state Labor Department and the local Private Industry Council would establish an office at the plant before the closing, Gallagher said. CPC on Monday said the plant is too small for modern equipment. It produced 45 varieties of pasta,

totalling about 180 million pounds annually. CPC spokeswoman Gale Griffin said.

"During the 14 years we've operated this facility, our employees have done everything possible to improve the productivity of the plant," said Lawrence K. Hathaway, vice president of CPC. "But we can't avoid the economic realities of our industry and there is no way to overcome the high cost of running a small outdated plant built in 1915."

Schundler was told by CPC several weeks ago that the plant might be

closing, Gallagher said.

CPC said Tuesday it has reached an agreement with union officials about severance pay and other matters, but would not disclose details.

"It's above and beyond the union requirements, what is called for in the contract," Griffin said.

CPC's key brands include Skipppy peanut butter, Thomas' English muffins and Hellmann's mayonnaise. It announced last week that it was selling its Melba toast unit.

It closed the S.B. Thomas Co. muffin bakery in Totowa last year,

putting 220 out of work.

Mueller's was a family-owned business based here when CPC bought it in 1983 for \$125 million.

In 1867, Christian Frederick Mueller, a German immigrant, went from house to house selling goods baked in his Jersey City kitchen. He expanded his business in 1890 to a plant in the city.

Until 1894, C.P. Mueller Co. made only egg noodles, but a decision was made to make other products including spaghetti.

see 364 LOSE JOBS/page ten

Extravaganza to benefit Essex county leading non-profit emergency social-service agency

NEWARK—April is the season for excitement and Newark Emergency Services for Families, Inc. (NESF) is hosting an evening of exciting auction items up for bid.

On Tuesday, April 29, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Newark Club, located at One Newark Center, 22nd Floor, in the heart of downtown Newark, NESF will host its 13th Annual Fund-raising Auction.

Vacations, autographed memorabilia from your favorite athletes, fine jewelry, electronics, sports tickets and equipment, dinner and lunch certificates and so much more are being auctioned.

"As in the past, NESF's annual auction is an enjoyable and fun filled event," said Jeanette Page-Hawkins, NESF Executive Director. "The Newark Club provides excellent service and a breathtaking skyline view of Manhattan."

This year we are honored to have

corporate sponsorship from Chase Manhattan Bank, and the continuous support of corporations, foundations, public officials, and the community at large."

NESF Auction continued page 2 The proceeds from the auction will assist NESF's programs and services for those in need who reside in Essex County. In 1996, NESF assisted over 38,000 families in need of food, clothing, shelter, and medicine; many face eviction, utilities shut-off, or the trauma of a violent crime. NESF also provides assistance to the homeless, working poor, and those impacted by HIV/AIDS.

"Since 1977, NESF has been preventing emergencies from becoming tragedies," said Hawkins. "We invite the community at large to join us in our quest of making a positive difference in the lives of others."

Falsely accused Postal workers outraged

NEWARK—The North Jersey Area Local of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) has expressed outrage over the exoneration of a white female court officer who falsely accused an African-American male of rape. The union is asking African-American male employees of the Newark Main Post Office to file a federal civil rights lawsuit against Lisa Horton Wight, the woman who made the accusation, the US Postal Service, and the federal court.

"We're looking for some type of closure," said William E. Frazier, Executive Vice-President of the APWU. "Too often these things happen, no one is held accountable, and we don't hear anything until 40 years later. By that time, half the people (hurt by the incident) are dead."

The Newark post office is located in the old courthouse on Franklin St. This event began a year ago when Wight told authorities she was raped and gave the description of a black male. A general police sketch of a black male was immediately circulated and posted throughout the post office and court, and an another court officer issued a call for an immediate arrest. Once the order was issued, black postal employees, as well as black court officers or officers of government agencies, were rounded up and interrogated. During the investigation, two of them were removed from their job for months and only through filing grievances were they able to come back.

Eventually, the police began to disbelieve Officer Wight's story. She finally

confessed she had fabricated the assault charges. She was able to avoid criminal prosecution, however, through the Pre-Trial Intervention program, which places her under supervision for a period of 18 months. Wight has also since resigned.

Frazier, who has sent letters to Congressman Donald Payne, Senator Frank Lautenberg, Attorney General Janet Reno, and others, feels the falls way short of what should have been done. He is now also circulating a petition among the workers demanding a public apology from the court, and post office. "The Inspector's office is in this building," he noted. "Once you are picked up, people start thinking you're guilty. There was no apology from the FBI or any authorities."

Rep. Payne has responded to the letter, saying the issue concerns him and he looks forward to a positive conclusion. Frazier, however, felt slighted by the Justice Department. "It was very insulting by Janet Reno's not responding," he said. "She only responded April 3, after a petition was sent with 100 names demanding her to."

The letter from the APWU calling for the lawsuit began circulating among the workers in the building this Monday. Frazier feels that after the decision not to file criminal charges, this would be the next best alternative to find justice.

In promotional swing, Tiger Woods shows why he's not just a golfer

By John Curran
Associated Press writer

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Even the president couldn't corner Tiger Woods on the night baseball celebrates the 50-year anniversary of Jackie Robinson's debut in the major leagues.

Woods, 21, the youngest player to win the Masters while also becoming the first black golfer to win a major tournament, kept his plans for a vacation despite an invitation from President Clinton to join him tonight at Shea Stadium in New York.

"It's no disrespect by Tiger to Jackie Robinson, who is without question one of the game's heroes," Hughes Norton of IMG, Woods' management group, told USA Today on Monday. "Nor is it any disrespect to President Clinton. But it's a good indication of how important off-time is to Tiger."

The vacation is to an undisclosed foreign country. Clinton joined a huge crowd honoring the late Robinson in the city where he broke baseball's established color line 50 years ago.

Meanwhile, Woods had a full schedule the day after his milestone victory, which was seen by the largest television audience in Masters history despite his runaway victory.

The day after the win, Woods exhibited the hard work, grace and selflessness that have made him one of the world's hottest sports stars.

He made good on a pair of promo-

tional appearances he could have skipped.

He pressed the flesh with adoring fans. He deflected credit for his record-breaking performance at Augusta National, saying he owed it to his parents. He encouraged children to earn trust from their parents.

And he welcomed the responsibility of serving as a children's role model.

"They look up to me in a positive light. If I can help them out, I've done my job," Woods said Monday during an appearance at the Official All-Star Cafe.

Woods made appearances at Official All-Star Cafe openings here and in Myrtle Beach, S.C., surprising some who expected the dramatic victory to change his plans.

Woods tossed golf balls, T-shirts and hats into a crowd of about 500 people in Myrtle Beach.

"I'm still on cloud nine from yesterday," he said. "My [green] jacket? I slept with it last night."

In Atlantic City, spectators began lining up on the Boardwalk early in the afternoon for the evening event, hoping to catch a glimpse of Woods, who joined actress Whoopi Goldberg, actor Luke Perry, tennis great Monica Seles, former tennis bad boy John McEnroe and boxer Riddick Bowe for ceremonies at Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort, where the New Jersey cafe is located.

About 2,000 onlookers roared when he ambled down the 320-foot



red carpet that lined the Boardwalk flanked by a half dozen bodyguards and Seles, who walked with him but might as well have been invisible, for all the crowd cared.

Donna Mason, 36, of Brigantine held her 1 1/2-year-old son, Joseph, on her shoulders. Joseph, who couldn't pronounce Tiger, chanted "Tee Woods! Tee Woods!"

Mrs. Mason, who watched the tournament on TV, was thrilled to see Woods up close.

"I cried when he hugged his parents," she said. "I felt like his mother, I was so proud of him. He's just a young man."

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For additional information, contact the New Jersey Department of Health Infant Immunization Hotline at 1-800-328-3838. During National Infant Immunization Week (April 20-26), stop by your local New Jersey McDonald's Restaurant to receive additional "immunize for Healthy Lives" information.

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Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

PLAINFIELD—A free SBA community assistance seminar will be held at the Plainfield Library. For more information, call 908-527-2946.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

WEST WINDSOR—Business Goes to College conference at Mercer County Community College. For more information, call 609-586-4900, ext. 283.

PICATINNY ARSENAL—US Government Permanent Exhibition of US Army Armament Research, Development, and Engineering Center. For more information, call 201-658-4021.

JERSEY CITY—The recently founded Labor Party is holding its first meeting in the Pine Room of the Ukrainian Community Center. Attendance free. For more information, call 201-658-4021.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

READING, PA.—General Meeting of the Delaware Valley Minority Business Resource Council. Sponsored by GPU Energy. For more information, call 215-893-9977.

SOMERSET—2nd Annual Small Business Conference at the Somerset Marriott. For more information, call 808-725-1552.

Fax Business events to City News
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Essex	50,240	Ocean	45,280
Gloucester	41,040	Passaic	52,240
Hudson	35,760	Somerset	56,000
Mercer	48,880	Union	50,240
		Warren	50,240

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New Minority Digital TV Network Possible If FCC Adopts Core Spectrum Plan

Robert L. Johnson, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BET Holdings Inc., recently wrote in a letter to FCC Chairman Reed Hundt indicating that he and other minority players would be interested in acquiring licenses for the purpose of creating a new minority digital broadcasting multimedia network if the FCC accepted available digital channels pursuant to its Core Spectrum Plan.

The Core Spectrum Plan "would enable the FCC to reallocate and au-

ction digital television channels 60-69 immediately to new players, while providing the FCC with an opportunity to create effective auction incentives to encourage the entrance of new minority owners in the digital television market," said Johnson.

Noting that Black Americans today own less than 2 percent of all U.S. communications properties, Johnson expressed his desire to enter the digital television market "to offer new and innovative services to minorities and

the broader viewing public."

"Before more viable minority businesses can enter the digital broadcast multimedia market, we must create new licensing opportunities nationwide. This means that the FCC should auction as much spectrum as possible in conjunction with its Core Spectrum Plan," Johnson said further.

Johnson is a leading member of the Coalition for Diversity of Ownership, a group of black leaders, businessmen and policy specialists who

seek to expand ownership opportunities for minorities and women in the digital broadcast media and information services industry. Other members of the Coalition for Diversity of Ownership include the Reverend Jesse Jackson of Rainbow/PUSH Auction Network, Hugh Price of the National Urban League, Kwesi Mfume of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Earl Graves of Black Enterprise magazine and attorney Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr.

Dow Jones, The Wall Street Journal and Our World News announce recipients of Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards

NEW YORK—Dow Jones & Company, its flagship publication The Wall Street Journal, and Our World News, a national newsweekly aimed at black Americans, announced that Conner J. Cottrell, chairman and president of ProLine Corp., Cathy L. Hughes, owner and chief executive of Radio One Co., and Edward Lewis, chairman, publisher and chief executive of Essence Communications Inc., are recipients of the 1997 Dow Jones/Our World News Award for Entrepreneurial Excellence.

The awards, which honor black

entrepreneurs for extraordinary achievement, were presented at a March 20 dinner this evening at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore hotel during the fifth annual Black Entrepreneurship in America conference sponsored by Dow Jones, the Journal and Our World News.

Mr. Cottrell founded ProLine, a manufacturer of ethnic health and beauty aids, in 1970, using \$60 of capital and a borrowed typewriter. Today, ProLine is the third largest producer of ethnic hair and skin care products in the U.S., with sales exceeding \$40 million a year. It produces and distributes more than 40 products and has plants and distributors in Africa, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Europe. ProLine is the 19th largest black-owned business in the U.S., according to Black Enterprise magazine.

Mr. Cottrell has long been active in civic, charitable and educational activities. He is one of the owners of the Texas Rangers baseball team, is past chairman of the American Health

& Beauty Aids Institute and serves on the board of the Texas Commission of Bank. He has served as a trustee of City College of Los Angeles, Compton College and Paul Quinn College, a black school that Mr. Cottrell was instrumental in rescuing from financial and academic decline.

Ms. Hughes' interest in radio was sparked as a student working at the radio station of Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., her hometown. Later, she invested in KOWH, a black-owned radio station in Omaha. Putting in 60-hour and 70-hour weeks, she learned the radio business inside out by working every job at the station. In 1971, she moved to Washington, D.C., and lectured at Howard University's School of Communication, where she helped create an accredited communications curriculum.

When she became vice president and general manager of Howard University's radio station, WHURFM, in 1975, Ms. Hughes created "The Quies Storm," a nighttime program whose format eventually spread across

the country. The program increased WHUR's advertising revenues tenfold to \$3.5 million.

In 1980, Ms. Hughes acquired WOLAM, a Washington radio station, for which she coined the slogan, "Where Information is Power." A year later, she started the "Cathy Hughes Show," which focused on informing and empowering the African-American community.

Today, her Radio One Co. owns eight radio stations in Baltimore, three in Washington, D.C., and one in Atlanta. In the 1996 fall Arbitron ratings, Radio One's WOLAM was Baltimore's No. 1 station, having risen from No. 8 in only three years. The company's \$34 million acquisition in 1995 of WKYS-FM in Washington from Albmar Communications Inc. reportedly is the biggest radio deal between minority-owned companies. Ms. Hughes received Turner Broadcasting's Trumpet Award, honoring African-American achievement; she is a trustee of the Baltimore Museum of Art.

Women business owners corporation presents connection '97... Fast forward

LOS ANGELES—The first ever online procurement event for women business owners, Connections '97... Fast Forward, is being presented on October 29, 1997. During this land-



mark event, America's eight million women business owners can book up and up into the World Wide Web for resources designed to educate them about the procurement process and enhance their opportunities to gain contracts with corporations, governments and associations.

Connections '97... Fast Forward will paint a portrait of women business owners and their successes, and address critical issues they face in marketing their businesses through contracting. Women entrepreneurs, public policy makers and corporate executives nationwide will participate in satellite broadcast events as well as panels, online discussion forums and seminars. A wide range of contracting topics including current

procurement trends to innovative contracting and training programs, international procurement strategies as well as international and agency quality standards will be discussed. Connections '97... Fast Forward will deliver first-rate programming and speakers through a variety of cutting-edge technology and present the first ever online trade show.

"We created Connections '97... Fast Forward to mobilize women business owners to set aggressive business goals that will catapult their companies by harnessing the opportunities of major contract acquisition," said Kathleen Schwalle, president Women Business Owners Corporation. For more information call 313/4587526 or www.wboc.org.

Report former Korean agent donated thousands to GOP

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—The owner of an Essex County optical company who has testified he worked for the South Korean CIA donated \$17,350 to New Jersey Republican candidates since 1994, a published report says. Yung Sook Yoo of Glen Ridge made the contributions to the Republican State Committee and to three Republican candidates. The Star-Ledger of Newark reported in today's editions. The newspaper said it based its report on campaign finance records.

Yung, owner of Vitac Optical Co. of East Rutherford, donated \$10,000 to the state party in January 1994. His company added another \$600 on Aug. 10, 1995.

He also sent in \$5,000 for the party's federal campaign activities, the newspaper said.

Last year, Yung donated \$1,000 to

the campaign of unsuccessful GOP Senate candidate Richard Zimmer, \$200 to 9th Congressional District GOP candidate Kathleen Donovan and \$500 to former Rep. William Martin in the 8th District.

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) and Sen. George Pataki have returned Yung's donations, the newspaper said.

In 1977, Yung testified before Congress that he had worked for the Korean Central Intelligence Agency and tried to prevent witnesses from testifying about the 1970s bribery scandal known as "Koragate."

Yung, 60, unsuccessfully appealed his 1984 bank fraud conviction involving the sale of substandard coal for fuel, according to court records. He paid a \$10,000 fine, the newspaper said.

Anti-Drug Rally Scheduled

ASBURY PARK—The Community Oriented Police Services (COPS) Unit is sponsoring a "Take Back the Streets-Anti-Drug Rally" on Sunday, April 27, continuing a campaign that started with a February "Take Back the Street" March.

The Rally will be on the corner of Springfield Avenue and Atkins Avenue. For more information, call George Corbin at (908) 502-5780.

Key tax groups voice support for Whitman tax Cuts

PERTH AMBOY—Key tax groups from New Jersey today joined forces to voice their support for Governor Christie Whitman's historic 30% cut in income taxes. At a campaign stop in Perth Amboy, representatives from Coalition for Lower Taxes, Tax Operations: Common Sense, Mansfield Taxpayers Association, TAXPAC and Hands Across N.J., called Whitman "a leader who kept the promise to deliver tax relief to the people of New Jersey." Today's event demonstrates the strength of support for Whitman's landmark tax reforms.

"Christie Whitman has kept her word to the Workers of New Jersey," said the tax groups in a joint statement. "In 1994, she came to Perth Amboy and signed the second installment of her historic 30% income tax cuts into law—more than a year ahead of schedule. Since taking office, Christie Whitman has cut taxes a total of twelve times. As a result, New Jersey now has the fastest growing economy in the Mid-Atlantic. The state now ranks among the top three states in annual wages and in the top ten in attracting new business from out of state. She's put New Jersey back on track."

tax cuts are a testament to economic success. She's shown New Jersey and the rest of the country that responsible tax cuts unleash economic growth and create jobs. By cutting big government and cutting spending, she's put New Jersey on the right road to a brighter future."

"In proof of the support you see here today for my tax cutting measures," said Whitman, "We've shown the country that when you cut

taxes for families and businesses, you create opportunities. But there's still more to do. That's why we can't turn back the clock and return to the days of the Democrats' record tax hikes. There's too much at stake. We're moving in the right direction, putting New Jersey on the right road to a brighter future."

NMBC establishes loan fund for members

NEW YORK, N.Y.—The National Minority Business Council (NMBC) has established a revolving loan fund for NMBC members and affiliates, with the assistance of Citibank's Community Development program, providing a \$200,000 credit line to the NMBC.

The loan fund will be available to NMBC members with at least one month membership, and affiliates from the Professional Women's Association, Association of Minority Enterprises of New York, Harlem Business Alliance, and the Low Income Family Foundation, in Jamaica, N.Y. Applicants will have to access these revolving loans of \$5,000 to \$25,000, for periods of 30 to 180 days. Interest rates will be two percent above the prime rate offered by commercial banks.

John F. Robinson, NMBC president and CEO, said that a loan fund has been "a dream of mine for a long time for our membership." Repeated surveys of NMBC members reveal that financing is the major need for them to operate their businesses successfully.

"We believe this program will enhance the commercial performance of NMBC member companies," Mr. Robinson said. The loan fund goes into effect as of Monday, April 7. Loans will be made directly by the NMBC, and will take a maximum of two weeks for approval.

Paulette Owens, the development officer of the NMBC, is the loan fund administrator. There will be a nonrefundable application fee of \$150, for loans between \$5,000 and \$14,000, and \$200 for loans from \$15,000 to \$25,000. It is seen as a major step for the NMBC, and it is hoped that other banks will establish similar revolving loan funds with the NMBC, making it possible for the organization to make more and bigger loans.

"This is a partnership between Citibank and the NMBC to service the needs of small, minority businesses in need of specialized working capital loans, allowing them to fulfill business contracts," said Radames Montero, Citibank vice president for community development.

BillBoard

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

CRANFORD—Renowned artist, Prof. Emma Amos of Rutgers University will visit Union County College for a slide/lecture presentation depicting black cultural and feminist issues in her works. For more information, call 908-709-7183.

NEW YORK—Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers at Manny's Car Wash. For more information, call 212-369-BLUES.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

NEW YORK—Maria Muldaur at Manny's Car Wash. For more information, call 212-369-BLUES.

UPPERMONTCLAIR—Noah Jemisin will lecture about the many paths of black life at Montclair State University. For more information, call 201-655-4333.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

UPPERMONTCLAIR—Latin American Literature Conference at Montclair State University. For more information, call 201-655-1240.

APRIL 25, 26

JERSEY CITY—"Moods In Motion," spring dance concert at Jersey City State College. For more information, call 201-200-3151.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

PLAINFIELD—Basketball game sponsored by the Plainfield Municipal Alliance at the Plainfield High School Gym. For more information, call 908-753-3325.

NEWARK—Greater Newark Youth Orchestra presents their annual spring concert at Symphony Hall. For more information, call 201-624-3713.

JERSEY CITY—High School Jazz Festival at Margret Williams Theatre of Hightown Hall in Jersey City State College. For more information, call 201-200-3151.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

NEW BRUNSWICK—Bob McGrath (Sesame Street) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the State Theatre. For more information, call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

NEW YORK—Dana Fuchs at Manny's Car Wash. For more information, call 212-369-BLUES.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

TRENTON—Bob McGrath (Sesame Street) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at The Crescent Theatre. For more information, call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

NEW YORK—Michael Hill's Blues Mob at Manny's Car Wash. For more information, call 212-369-BLUES.

THURSDAY, MAY 1

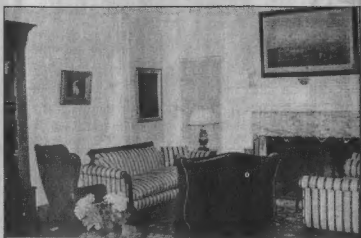
WESTBURY—Lou Rawls/Nancy Wilson, 8 pm at the Westbury Music Fair, Brush Hollow Rd. For more information, call 516-334-0800.

ENGLEWOOD—Bob McGrath (Sesame Street) and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the John Harms Center. For more information, call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

NEW YORK—Billy Branch and the Sons of the Blues at Manny's Car Wash. For more information, call 212-369-BLUES.

UPPERMONTCLAIR—Presentation, "Unsung Heroes in Design History," at Montclair State University. For more information, call 201-655-4333.

The Friends of Sleepy Hollow to Host Mansions of May House Tour



PLAINFIELD—The Mansions of May House Tour will be held on Sunday, May 4, 1997 from 11:00am to 4:00pm. The tour is hosted by The Friends of Sleepy Hollow, a nonprofit community organization working for Plainfield.

Eleven mansions will open their doors to visitors on May 4th. The homes range in style from Colonial to Victorian and will include some of the most impressive residences in the city, located in three of Plainfield's prestigious historic districts. Each house offers a beautifully decorated interior and a unique history.

Tickets will be available for \$15.00 in advance and -for \$20.00 on the day of the tour. Tickets may be purchased at Swain Galleries, 703 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, Daryl Queen, 1367 South Avenue, Plainfield, Richard Roberts Ltd., 375 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, and Richard Roberts Ltd., 181 Maplewood Avenue, Maplewood, Accents Unlimited, 57 Elm Street, Westfield, and Brass Lanterns, 335 Main Street, Metuchen. Tickets will be available on the day of the tour at Swain's and Richard Roberts Ltd. No children under 12 years of age. For further information regarding this tour please call (908) 753-4476.

60,000 Buy tickets for coming home concert by Fugees

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Like conquering heroes who've gone from rags to riches, the top-selling Fugees rap group are being welcomed at a "Coming Home Concert" Saturday that sold out to 60,000 people.

Thousands more Haitians, unable to afford the \$3 and \$10 tickets, are expected on the sidelines of the open-air concert in front of Port-au-Prince City Hall and within whiffing distance of the stinking drains of Cite Soleil shantytown.

"We're making people proud to be Haitian," said Wyclef Jean, 27, the group leader who left Haiti when he was 9 for South Orange, N.J.

He and school chums Pras and Michel, 24, called Pras and also born in Haiti, along with the group's star, American-born Lauryn Hill, are donating proceeds from the concert to Haitian refugees recently deported from neighboring Dominican Republic.

They arrived fresh from signing a \$20-million contract with Sony for their own label, The Refugee Camp, to promote other young singers, according to Sam Jean, Jean's brother and the group's attorney.

"Sony is going to make billions and we're going to make millions," Jean boasted to a fan Thursday when the group visited Bacchus, a fashionable night spot.

Haitian politicians and notables also praised the trio as role models for

young Haitians. They said the group was a signal of hope that there can be success for this country, better known for its dismal poverty and violent politics that forced thousands to risk their lives on flimsy boats to get to Florida.

"Thanks to people like you, Haiti will show that it is capable of great things. Thanks to you, Haiti will not die," Culture Minister Raoul Peck said after President Rene Preval presented them with the Order of Honor and Merit.

The Fugees—a nod to Jean's and Michel's refugee heritage—shot to fame last year with their second album, "The Score," a Grammy award winner.

A hip-hop version of the standard "Killing Me Softly" was a nationwide smash hit last year, winning them another Grammy.

They say their music is a "refugee

camp" providing shelter to the outcast and lost.

"The street kids who are not allowed into the National Palace are a lot like me," Jean said snidely, when, dressed in an expensive business suit, he received his decoration.

He spoke after Culture Minister Raoul Peck said the group "give the youth of Haiti a right to dream—dream big!"

Back at Bacchus, the Petionville nightclub, the group gloried in future riches, discussing how they would display newly acquired and expensive pieces of Haitian art in the condominiums they said they had just bought in New Jersey.

It's a long way from Haiti and the thousands of children who scrounge a life off the streets, sniffing glue and popping pills to drown their misery and turning to child prostitution to feed their habits.

Film theater named after Jimmy Stewart

PRINCETON, N.J. (AP)—At Princeton, Jimmy Stewart's wonderful life keeps getting better.

The university is naming its film theater after the Ivy League alum and theater a retrospective of his work.

Stewart, class of '32, already holds an honorary degree, served as university trustee from 1959 to 1963 and received the Woodrow Wilson award for outstanding public service, the

highest alumni honor.

But it is still uncertain if the star of more than 80 movies, including the beloved holiday classic "It's a Wonderful Life" and political satire "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," will be able to attend the May 30 dedication ceremony.

The actor has not been feeling well, a university spokeswoman said.

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

STARS SPEND MONEY IN TRUMPS CASINO'S



ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—A funny thing happened on the way to the Boardwalk: Whoopi Goldberg joined Tiger Woods and

Monica Seles in trying her luck in one of Donald Trump's casinos.

"I got killed at the slots and I made it up at black jack," said Goldberg, who took time out from her "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" gig on Broadway to appear Monday with the others at the opening of an Official All Star Cafe here at Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort.

Woods also did a little gambling before joining other celebrities at the opening. He joined Seles for a few rolls at a roulette table.

He wasn't talking about it, but others were.

"He took you for \$1 million," Trump jokingly was told by movie producer Keith Barish, chairman of the board of Planet Hollywood International, which owns the Official All Star Cafe.

"If he did, I wouldn't mind," replied The Donald.

MUSIC

THE ARTIST FORMERLY KNOWN AS PRINCE WINS ROUND ONE

CHASKA, Minnesota (AP)—The artist formerly known as Prince has won a round in his court battle to stop two former employees from talking about his newborn son's death.

Carver County District Judge Jean Davies agreed Friday to bar the public and the news media from the next hearing in Prince's lawsuit against Adlene and Ernie Mojica, his wife's former assistants.

The suit accuses the Mojicas of violating confidentiality agreements. They have denied signing such an agreement.

Prince and his wife, Mayte Garcia-Nelson, have never publicly acknowledged the death of their son, who was born Oct. 16. A death certificate said the baby died Oct. 23 of complications of Pfeiffer's syndrome Type 2, a rare and fatal



skull deformity.

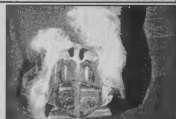
The Mojica sisters have said they disagreed with a decision to turn off the baby's respirator and allow him to die.

Lawyers for the Mojicas and WCCO-TV of Minneapolis want to keep the case open. The sisters' lawyer declined to comment on Friday's ruling. WCCO lawyer John Berger said the station had not decided whether to appeal.

Plainfield students show their artwork



PLAINFIELD—Maxson Middle School will present an art show of student works on May 5, 1997 from 6:30-9 pm. The school is located on 620 9th Street. For more information, call Connie Fuller Petersen, (908) 753-3329.



FOX IS SMOKIN'

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A Word of Hope

First things first

By Rev. Maxine L. Thomas

"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my flesh length for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is." Psalm 63:1

My friend, does your life seem hectic at the moment? Maybe things aren't going the way that you want them to go. You thought you had everything together, but it seems like the bottom has dropped out of your standing ground... the ceiling has just caved in on your hopes and dreams... things are just not what they should be.

You don't know where the rent money is coming from... your children are running haywire... the friend that you trusted most turned his back on you... family just doesn't understand... you're searching but don't know what you're looking for... your stomach is full yet you sense an empty void on the inside. Have you ever felt like that?

And so it is that in this life, we're going to be confronted with some circumstances that are less than desirable. Things are not always going to go the way that we want them to go; in every life, some rain must fall. The Bible says that it rains on the just and the unjust alike (Mal. 3:4-5). Sometimes storm clouds are going to rise and strong winds are going to blow.

But I'm so glad that thou art my God. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is my God. The God that locked the lion's jaw and crashed the wall at Jericho is my God. O God, thou art my God.

Well, God is my strength when I feel like I can't make it from one day to the next. He is my peace in the midst of confusion. He is my joy in the midst of death and sorrow. He is my hope when I feel like giving up. God is my comfort by day and my song in the night.

The Bible says that He is our rock and our refuge. My friend, O God, become same God yesterday, today, and tomorrow. If God said, "you stand on oil," He's not a man that He should

lie. Our God changes not. A song writer said, "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and His righteousness... I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name."

Early will I seek thee, O Lord. The Bible says, "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." (Jer. 29:13.)

Beloved, God is searching for those whose heart is perfect towards Him... for one who is convinced that God's way is the best way... for one who is committed to the Lord Jesus Christ and has found the Lord to be a resting place... for one who is completely sold out to Christ.

And I'm going to seek Him early in the morning. God is at the top of my agenda... He's at the top of my list... He has first priority. I'm going to seek the Lord early. Not after every other word has been closed... early... not after the doctor's prescription doesn't work... early... not after I reach a certain age... early will I seek thee!

You see, my soul thirsts for God... for the Living God. I've got to have something that is real. I can't find total satisfaction in relationships; for friends are here today and gone tomorrow. I can't find fulfillment in my house and in my car; for certainly, these are uncertain riches.

But I'm so glad that we serve a God who knows how to satisfy. The Psalmist said, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." (Ps. 23:1.) Jesus is the only one who can satisfy the longings of the hungry soul. On taste and see that the Lord is good. (Ps. 34:8.) Blessed be the name of the Lord.

COPING

By Dr. Charles W. Faulkner

"Don't Beat Your Children. Psychology and love should be used to raise them so that they become mature, trusting, emotionally stable adults."

Anyone who knows me, knows how strongly I feel about the above statement. However, many people get quite upset regarding my ideas on this issue. The usual comments that I hear, in opposition to my ideas, are: "My parents beat me and I am going to continue to beat my children." The only way that you can make children obey you is to beat them." "My parents beat me and it made me a better person." "The Bible says 'Spare the rod and spoil the child.'" "I only harshly spank my child. There is nothing wrong with spanking." (Note: spanking and beating are essentially the same.) These remarks only scratch the surface. Some people are so passionately in favor of beating children that it is frightening. Yet, they seem unaware of the following:

1) One of the major causes of violence in society is the many parents who use violence to raise their children and whose children use as models to relate to others in society.

2) Many parents feel the need to control their children and force them to obey.

3) Most parents know of no alternative way to raise children. They believe that they are blessed by God with an inherent ability to raise children. Yet, they would be furious if their

spouse, boss, friend, child or stranger were to use the same behavior with them.

4) Some parents beat their children as a means of getting rid of their own stress and insecurity.

5) Many parents have used violence in their homes for so many years that they believe that no other method will work. They are afraid to change.

6) Some parents do not realize that the basic mistakes that they have made in rearing their children over the years are the direct cause of their emotionally troubled children disobeying them. They feel "trapped" with no way out of the problem that they have created.

7) Many parents try to "control" their children when they, in fact, should

try to guide them, so that their children can logically decide between good and bad behavior. Some parents feel a need to "control" their children as a means of showing them who's the "boss." So while they are making themselves appear to be like tough parents, they are destroying their children and, in some cases, creating predators who will terrorize other members of society.

8) Usually, when a parent directs violence at his/her children, that parent uses violence to control the spouse also. Yet, few such people will admit that they are participating in child and spousal abuse. ~

9) There are wonderful, easy/understandable and easy/love methods for raising children. Such

proven methods will result in a healthy relationship between parent and child, as well as between a child and society.

10) Children who are victims of parent violence or child abuse usually lose complete respect for their parents and for other members of society. They might learn to obey the parent, but they also learn to hate him or her.

11) Once the child has lost respect for and trust in the parent, more advanced methods of counseling must be used to bring the child back to a state of normality. Most abused children, and their parents, are in need of extensive counseling. It is clear that Nothing good can result from the abuse or beating of a child.

Youth march on Childs day



The Plainfield Area Kinder Club marches down Watching Ave in Plainfield during the Parade of the Young Child Wednesday, sponsored by the Plainfield YMCA. The parade included over 600 preschool and kindergarten children representing various groups and daycare center, and is held annually.

Pilgrimage for black Christ becomes Bishops

By Trina Kleist

Associated Press writer

TILA, Mexico (AP)—A pilgrimage to honor a black Christ gave Mexican bishops a platform to call for peace and reconciliation in violence-torn Chiapas state.

The visit to the southeastern state on Sunday by leading Roman Catholic bishops highlighted the growing concern of rebel villages. Worry that rising tensions could spark renewed fighting has rekindled calls for both the government and representatives of the Zapatista National Liberation Army to return to the negotiating table.

Violence in the past two months has led at least four peasants and two policemen dead. The army recently established a new camp in rebel territory and has stepped up patrols through key rebel villages. Worry that rising tensions could spark renewed fighting has rekindled calls for both the government and representatives of the Zapatista National Liberation Army to return to the negotiating table.

"Peace can be the result of domination, of cemeteries, but that is not the peace we want," said Jalapa Archbishop Sergio Obeso Rivera, president of the Mexican conference of Bishops, during a Mass celebrated here.

"The Christians of Mexico want their problems resolved... not through arms or pressure, but by the path of peace," Obeso Rivera said in one of the strongest statements yet on Chiapas violence by a high church official.

More than 10,000 faithful, mostly poor Indians, sang hymns and carried banners of the saints to the sanctuary of Our Lord of Tila, atop a windy hill north of San Cristobal de las Casas.

The panoramic site at the northern edge of the poor, mountainous state for Maya pilgrims before the Spanish Conquest. The black-skinned Catholic saint who now occupies the 17th-century church is believed throughout Mexico's southeast for reputedly miraculous powers.

As Obeso Rivera and six other bishops looked on, four men bore the image of the crucified black Christ, adorned with red, pink and orange paper flowers and red ribbons, to the outdoor altar in front of the church door.

"We have bishops on the side of the poor? We want bishops on the side of the poor," chanted the crowd. They cheered and waved orange gladiolas and white carnations, while four musicians played a marimba.

Then, deacons from the counties of Tila, Sabinalilla and El Bosque recounted the displacement, disappearances and deaths they have suffered since their villages began openly backing the demands of the Zapatista rebels for agricultural, economic and political reforms.

Obeso Rivera called on believers to bear their suffering, forgive their persecutors and struggle tirelessly to achieve peace and reconciliation.

The bishops, including members of the conference's special commission on Chiapas, will meet Tuesday with Zapatista rebel leaders in the highlands village of Oventik during their four-day tour. They will also seek a meeting with Gov. Julio Cesar Ruiz Ferro, diocesan chancellor Father Gonzalo Iduarte said.

Zapatista rebels rose up more than three years ago in a brief civil war that left at least 145 people dead. However, hundreds more of their peasant supporters have died in land and politics-related violence since then.

Facing up to our problems

By Junior Ricardo Stanton

Montgomery bus boycott and the modern civil rights movement.

Avoidance is when we put off doing something we don't feel comfortable attempting, something we perceive as unpleasant or something we don't have the confidence to do.

People can't grow mentally and spiritually when they avoid tackling the issues of life, those things necessary to affect their growth and maturation. Growth and change are laws of life. Avoiding either puts us in the absurd position of attempting to go against the natural flow of life. No matter how many times we try, in the long run it just won't work!

Problem solving demands we confront the situation and make a serious proactive commitment to deal with it. The deep wounds to our psyche will never heal as long as we deny we are hurting. Recovery is impossible as long as we deny the negative impact of racism and oppression. As long as we refuse to do what is necessary to return to wholeness, nothing will change.

Our social, economic and political status can't be altered as long as we deny the reasons we're wrong to trust and cooperate with one another. If we continue to avoid addressing these issues we will remain divided and impenetrable.

Our enemies will do any and everything to discourage our self-determination, social cohesion and unity. Their positions privilege dependence upon remaining disgruntled, discouraged and dependent. Don't expect them to support positive change! Don't expect the masses who have been brainwashed into believing in the inherent inferiority of Africans to act in ways befitting such self-serving people. This will only happen when the truth is spread abroad, when more and more of us accept it and our responsibility to liberate ourselves.

We have a responsibility and a duty to snap out of our stupor, shake off our lethargy and do what is in our best interests. Sanity is possible only when we reject the options of delusion and denial. Change is possible only when we stop procrastinating, avoiding and resisting taking positive steps to alleviate the problems and conditions that are unpleasant or harmful. If upon evaluation of the situation we determine we have no control over it, then it is incumbent upon us to change our perspective of it, as well as our mental and emotional responses to it. Anyway you cut it, you're going to have to do something differently.

The first step in solving any problem is to acknowledge the unfavorable condition or situation that is not to our liking or in our best interests. One reason so few problems get resolved in our community, is because we willfully engage in patterns of denial, denial, resistance and avoidance. We have consciously convinced ourselves that problems will disappear on their own if we pretend they doesn't exist. We foolishly believe the difficulty will magically disappear of its own volition or be resolved without any action on our part.

Another reason things don't change is because certain people have vested interests in the status quo and want to maintain their advantageous position at all costs. They will use any means at their disposal to discourage any and all action that will jeopardize their positions, power or influence. People in power rarely give it up, or voluntarily relinquish control over those things they are abusing.

Delusion occurs when a person holds false beliefs that cannot be altered by argument or the presentation of facts. For example Europeans delude themselves they are the "master race." They tell themselves their favored position in the world is the natural outgrowth of their superior intellect instead of their aggression, pillage, plunder and exploitation of people of color.

Denial is when we pretend not to know what we know or when we choose to disbelieve the truth. For example, Africans in America are in serious denial about our status in this country despite 377 years of continuous slavery, contempt, deprivation and rejection. We keep fighting to buy a ticket into the burning building that is America. We need to ask ourselves what the advantage is of integrating into a morally and spiritually bankrupt culture?

Resistance can be either passive or aggressive, pro active or reactionary. For example many captured Africans openly rebelled rather than submit to the degradation of slavery. On the other hand some became collaborators and traitors, siding with the slave masters against their own Rosa Parks is an example of proactive resistance. She refused to give up her bus seat to a white man and sparked the

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The Monmouth County Fair Housing Board has been established by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to provide policy and guidance on compliance with State and Federal fair housing laws and regulations to protect the rights of all Monmouth County residents. The Fair Housing Office will provide the following services:

1. Coordination of a county-wide approach to ensure fair housing for residents.
2. Establishment of an intake and screening procedure for discrimination complaints. Services will include assistance and counselling on procedures for filing a complaint, help in completing the complaint form, and review and verification process.
3. Provide general information and assistance on housing problems, and when necessary refer clients to other agencies that are funded and staffed to handle a specific housing problem, including referral to the New Jersey Department of Civil Rights.
4. Education, training and technical assistance to individuals, groups, agencies and/or organizations.
5. Acquire and coordinate assistance of New Jersey Division of Civil Rights, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for verification of discrimination practices and negotiating settlement for fair housing problems.

The office will provide service and assistance to the general public however, we have targeted the following groups as our highest priority:

MINORITIES, HANDICAPPED, HOMELESS, SENIOR CITIZENS, FAIR HOUSING GROUPS, CONCERNED HOME/APARTMENT LEASE GROUPS, HOMEBUILDERS, REALTORS, LENDING INSTITUTIONS, AND MUNICIPALITIES

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING

Tiger Woods's run away Master's golf win boosts appeal for advertising

By Wollenberg

NEW YORK (AP)—Young Tiger Woods was a rising star on Madison Avenue before his runaway victory in golf's revered Masters tournament.

But his break-breaking performance and grace in accepting the winner's green jacket may have broadened his appeal beyond his sport and could put him in company with marketing icons like Michael Jordan and Arnold Palmer.

"Women and children in elevators and schoolyards are talking about yesterday's event and that shows something very important has happened," Fred Fried, an executive with the sports marketing firm Integrated Sports International, said Monday.

Lee Berke, an executive with the sports marketing firm Marquee Group, said Woods' win puts him on par with Jordan as a "cultural icon" and estimated the golfer's endorsement potential is Jordanesque.

Jordan, who plays basketball for the Chicago Bulls, reportedly gets more for endorsements than any athlete, collecting an estimated \$30 million to \$40 million a year for hitting products including cereal, hot dogs, underwear, sports drinks and batteries. He even has a fragrance on the market.

"I fully expect to see Tiger playing golf with Loney Tunes characters," Berke said.

Woods, 21, was the youngest ever to win the Masters, compiled the lowest score ever for the event and won by the largest margin of victory—12 strokes—for the title.

He also was the first black to win the Masters, and he noted in accepting the win that he was indebted to other trail-blazing black golfers like Lee Elder and Charles Siford.

Arthur Kamitaky, president of the sports management firm Athletes and Artists Inc., said Woods' tribute to past black golfers "is quite unique" especially since some black baseball players have indicated they know nothing about Jackie Robinson, the first black major league baseball player whose major league debut 50 years ago is being observed this year.

Brian Murphy, publisher of The Sports Marketing Letter, said Woods' demeanor on the course and after his victory set him apart.

"He showed how a real man behaves in a moment of victory and triumph," he said. "If Arnie had an army, he'd have legions."

Woods made his professional debut only last summer after a very successful amateur career.

He has signed a multi-year marketing contract reportedly valued at about \$40 million with Nike Inc., the sports shoe and apparel maker. He also has an endorsement deal with Titleist, which covers golf clubs, balls, bags and gloves. And he is an endorser of the All Star Cafe, a restaurant chain.

Clarke Jones, an executive at International Management Group, which acts as Woods' agent, said the three "core contracts provide a very solid foundation financially for Tiger."

Jones said while there may be other endorsement deals ahead, nothing is imminent and "there aren't going to be a whole lot."

Fast food and soft drinks are two areas that marketing experts cite as good possibilities for Woods' next

contract. An airline, a credit card and an automobile deal are also possibilities.

David Burns, who heads Burns Sports Celebrity Service, said the Masters win will enable Woods to get multi-year deals that athletes of his stature prefer at prices of \$1 million annually and more.

"The question is who can afford him," Burns said.

Golf also stands to benefit from the attention that Woods attracts. "He will do for golf what Michael Jordan did for basketball," said Burns. "It will bring more people into watching golf on TV."

Berke said the danger is that Woods' success will prove "too fast too soon." But Berke and others said his deliberate pace on limiting the number of contracts he intends to sign should help.

State sues charity

continued from page one

"New Jersey residents continue to be bombarded with solicitations from organizations that inaccurately claim to be affiliated with or represent local law enforcement organizations," Herr said. "The fact that a solicitor claims that a donation will benefit local law enforcement agencies doesn't make it true. Consumers should check with the division before they donate money."

As part of "Operation False Alarm," the Division of Consumer Affairs and the FTC have released a series of consumer education materials with tips on reducing the risk of being victimized by deceptive charitable solicitations. These tips include:

• Asking for written information so you can make an informed decision.

• Calling your local police or fire department to find out if they are aware of the fundraising campaign and if they have or will benefit from the funds being raised.

• Making sure the charity is registered in New Jersey by contacting the Division of Consumer Affairs' Charities Unit at 201-529-6259. All charities and fund-raisers soliciting money in New Jersey are required by law to be registered.

• Never giving your credit card or billing account number over the phone unless you have initiated the call.

• Never allowing a caller to Pressure you into donating immediately.

Knowing the difference between "tax exempt" and "tax deductible." Tax exempt means the organization doesn't have to pay taxes. Tax deductible means you can deduct your contribution on your federal income tax return.

Deputy Attorney General Deborah A. Young, from the Division of Law is handling this case.

Anyone who thinks they may have been victimized by charities fraud can call the division's Charities Unit at 201-504-6215

Hartford Co. NAACP head speaks of army racism over rape accusations

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I was invited to attend a meeting between the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) representatives and the investigation command. I was kicked out of the meeting by the command.

K.M.: What proof do you have of the Army only targeting Blacks?

J.G.: We were talked by General Shadley (the person in charge of the APG, the investigation and APG Army Ordinance School head) in December that white men were accused and we would get a list of the white males who were charged. We have also confirmed through independent reliable sources that white men have been accused. We have yet to get it. White men at APG have been accused over the hotline (a system set up by the Army encouraging Army women to report sexual harassment incidents). Only Blacks have been charged. Only the Black men were put on the television and in the newspaper. If it's wrong for a Black sergeant to commit these alleged acts, then it's wrong, for a white sergeant!

K.M.: Why did the women recant their testimony and agree to hold a press conference with the NAACP?

J.G.: They told me that they didn't want innocent men to go to prison for something they did not do. They were not raped nor did they force them to have sex, pulling rank over them. They said they were coerced by the CID (the Army's investigation division).

K.M.: Can you give me an example of the environment set by the CID interrogators in coercing the women?

J.G.: One woman coerced by the CID said, "One of the interrogators

stuck a picture of his two girls in my face and said 'Do you want to see some big Black N— f— my daughters?' The women we talked to, they backed them up against the wall and the investigators put their faces up to the women's faces and swore at them. They kept them for long hours. One person told us that they interrogated her for 41 straight days. They were not provided counsel.

K.M.: Were any of the accused Blacks?

J.G.: There is a Black woman living in Virginia who told us that the CID came to her home. They told her that if she did not sign a statement making accusations against one of the charged men, that they would force her back into the Army and punish her.

K.M.: Do you think that the Army should prosecute the women for making false charges?

J.G.: No! They forced the women to make the charges. I understand that's what they are doing to Private Moreland, the first woman who came forward to recant the rape charge. She came on her own and by herself to hold the press conference with us. They won't even give her an honorable discharge. The Black community should stand behind these women.

K.M.: Do you think that superiors have been having consensual sex with females under their charge while the top brass has looked the other way?

J.G.: Yes! It's something that is common knowledge. I have been around the Army. My husband and my father were in the service. They would just move the person to another post or give them

an Article 15.

K.M.: Do you think the Army can investigate itself?

J.G.: No! They have proved they are less than honest. They can't investigate themselves and tell the truth. They are not doing the whites accused that they are doing to the Blacks

accused. Look at what the women said at the press conference about how they were coerced by the Army's investigating unit. For example, we know there are white men, who have been charged. I have given them names of people. (General) Shadley admitted

that there were white officers identified from the hotline at APG who have not been charged.

J.G.: For more, should call the national NAACP legal counsel office in Baltimore at (410) 358-8900 or call me at (410) 272-8187.

Prostate cancer Gene appears more common Black men

By Daniel Q Haney
Media editor

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A newly cataloged gene that triggers inherited prostate cancer appears to be especially common among black men and may explain their heavy burden of this disease.

Prostate cancer is second only to lung cancer among cancer killers of American men, taking about 40,000 lives annually. However, it occurs about one-third more often among blacks than whites and is more aggressively fatal in blacks, too.

Some suspect that genetic factors may play a role in this difference. Now, scientists have preliminary evidence of what one of these genetic triggers might be.

Last November, researchers announced they had pinpointed the location of a gene, which they dubbed HPC1, that appears to cause about one-third of all inherited prostate cancer.

Most prostate cancer happens sporadically; victims have no particular family history of the disease. How-

ever, about 1 in 10 cases seems to be clearly inherited, because many men in the same family have it.

In these cases, experts believe that men are born with a damaged gene that passes from generation to generation and plays a key role in triggering prostate cancer.

Dr. William B. Isaacs and others from Johns Hopkins University found that in about 30 percent of these cancer families, the disease is caused by HPC1.

In a presentation Tuesday at the American Association for Cancer Research, Isaacs said the gene appears to be a much bigger factor in black families than in whites with the disease.

His group has analyzed the genes of 103 prostate cancer families in the United States and Sweden. He found HPC1 appeared to have triggered the disease in five of six black families studied.

"It is still too early to say with certainty that this is an important gene in African-American prostate cancer, but we have this suggestion of the beginning of evidence of that," said Isaacs.

Dr. Louise C. Strong of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center cautioned that more carefully controlled studies will be necessary before scientists can be sure of the gene's role in black families.

Nevertheless, she said, "It could be this gene accounts for a much larger proportion of familial prostate cancer in African Americans."

Isaacs said his research also suggests that those who get the bad gene also develop prostate cancer at a younger average age—64 compared with 72 for men with non-inherited disease. Furthermore, their disease also appears more likely to have spread.

Experts also wonder whether this gene will turn out to be a common trigger of non-inherited prostate cancer. Some bad genes that are passed through families also can be damaged through random mutations.

Although researchers know where HPC1 is located, they have yet to isolate the gene and learn its function. When that happens, they should be able to determine whether it is a common cause of the disease.

Stand for children 1997 to mobilize

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out about local Stand For Children events; get information on children's health needs; and learn more about how they can stand for healthy children throughout the year.

The Stand For Children home page will also allow visitors to connect with Mrs. Edelman, Mrs. O'Donnell, celebrities, and children's experts who are taking a Stand. The lead corporate sponsors of "Virtual" Stand For Children are The Calvert Group, Bright Horizons, and Silicon Graphics Computer Systems. The "Virtual" Stand For Children is also partnered with Yahoo!, the leading navigational guide on the Internet.

"The first-ever 'Virtual' Stand For Children is intended to raise awareness in the growing virtual community about the needs and health of all children and encourage tens of thousands to make a personal commitment to improve children's well-being," said Jonah Edelman, executive director of Stand For Children in Washington, D.C.

However, not everyone needs to be a "Web surfer" to participate in Standfor Children. Organizations have created a symbol of commitment to children that they hope will become as well-recognized as the red ribbon worn by AIDS activists.

"Every American can Stand for Children by wearing a green, heart-shaped button on June 1st," Mrs. Edelman said. "On this day, we must unite to say as Americans that no matter who we are, where we live, or how much we earn, we have a commitment to the health of all our children."

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